

STAND

Page 1A

the Smile Train, an organization that helps children with disfiguring clefts. Her donation paid for a child to stay for two nights in the hospital.

The next summer, after hearing Ron Abney speak at Vacation Bible School, Turknett knew what she wanted to do with her money. Abney traveled to many countries while working for the U.S. State Department and while in Cambodia, he came upon a small orphanage called Takeo Orphanage. After returning to the U.S., he begins helping these children by raising money to support college scholarships.

After hearing Abney's story, Turknett was ready to help.

The second year she made \$200 and sent to Abney for the orphanage. The project became real to Turknett as Abney introduced her to one of the orphans, Srey Touch who became her pen pal.

Turknett enjoyed communicating with her and even sent packages to the orphanage with Abney.

The next year, as soon as school was out, Turknett was ready to have the lemonade stand. Again, they made flyers, lemonade, cookies, and cupcakes and they made \$400. The project continued to grow each summer with more peo-

ple hearing about what she was doing.

Abney passed away about three months after he and Turknett visited while he was recovering from heart surgery. The work continues through the Ron Abney Educational Fund and so does Turknett's work. For the past three summers, the lemonade stand continued and \$3350.00 was sent to Cambodia. In all Turknett has been able to send a total of \$4700 to The Ron Abney Educational Fund.

The cost of a year at the University in Phnom Penh is \$450 for a standard degree and \$1,200 for an advanced degree.

The fund also gives each student \$50 for books and supplies. According to Mrs. Lee Darter, President of the Ron Abney Educational Fund, Caroline's contributions have been able to help nine students complete a year of college or two students actually go all the way through four-years of college and graduate.

After graduating, these students are able to start professional careers in Phnom Phenh. Unlike most teens, who may think hosting a lemonade stand is a little childish, Caroline sees it as a way to bring the community together to support a cause that is giving orphans in another country a brighter future.

According to Turknett, "I

know that here in America, we are so blessed and don't really know it until you talk to someone who is less fortunate than you and see how they live. I love knowing I help make their lives a little better!"

In 2013 and 2014 Kohl's Cares Scholarship Program for her efforts recognized Turknett as a regional winner. In the June issue of Woman's Day magazine, Caroline was recognized for her efforts in the magazine's "The Kindness Project" feature.

Turknett is the daughter of Robyn Faulk and Matt Turknett.